

• C o u n t e r p o i s e •

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLVII

November 2006

Number 11



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting:

November 9, 2006 7:00 pm

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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:

WA6BGScouterpoise@cox.net or by post
1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021

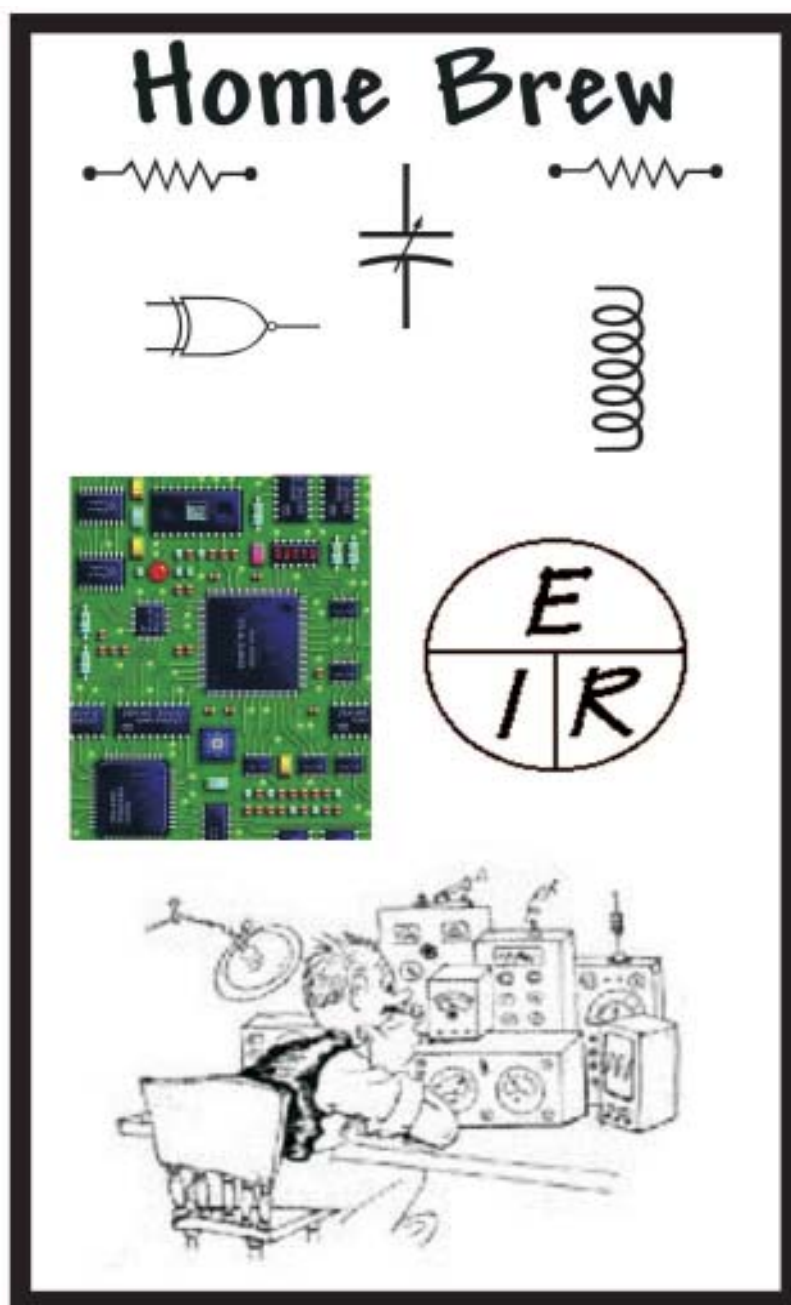
The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>

Counterpoise E-Mail address

WA6BGScouterpoise@cox.net



November Meeting Home Brew

2006 Officers

| | | | |
|----------------|--------|----------------------|----------|
| President | KC6QLS | Paul Rios | 593-9445 |
| Vice-President | AI6O | Ed Felter | 668-0928 |
| Secretary | N6OPH | Mike Maston | 296-9067 |
| Treasurer | KF6WXA | Susan Kochel | 445-6067 |
| Past President | KG6JCW | Mike "Stogie" Panger | 263-4439 |

2006 Board of Directors

| | | | |
|------------------|--------|--------------------|----------|
| Affiliated Clubs | AE6AV | Larry Plummer | 460-1818 |
| Public Service | N6NKJ | Rich Beisigl | 444-5465 |
| Prizes | WA6PPG | Carl Ferree | 328-2694 |
| Membership | KC6TBG | Ann Rios | 593-9445 |
| Instructor | AE6QW | Gordon Shackelford | 561-6323 |
| Social | KD6PRV | Anselmo Ruiz | 574-0720 |

2006 Standing Committee

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|----------------|----------|
| Club Attire | K6PKS | Paul Schmidt | 733-2284 |
| SANDARC Delegate | K5WFW | Len Fulbright | 258-1322 |
| Public Relations | KC6QLS | Paul Rios | 593-9445 |
| Counterpoise Editor | KC6QLS | Paul Rios | 593-9445 |
| Education | N6OPH | Mike Maston | 296-9067 |
| Estate Sales | N6JOJ | Tom Myrick | 449-3547 |
| Field Day | AI6O | Ed Felter | 668-0928 |
| Health & Welfare | KF6XY | John Cordle | 697-2700 |
| Historian | OPEN | | |
| Net Manager | KG6TDP | Mike O | 444-9090 |
| Post Mistress | KC6TBG | Ann Rios | 593-9445 |
| Technical | W6RHV | Bob Boehme | 448-4728 |
| Ticket Lady | KI6EEK | Lisie Rios | |
| Swap Meet | N6JOJ | Tom Myrick | 449-3547 |
| Bylaws | KF6XY | John Cordle | 697-2700 |
| WA6BGS Trustee | AE6CQ | Michael Martak | 562-6477 |
| WAMO | W6CCM | Erich Bennett | 401-7332 |
| Web Master | KC6QLS | Paul Rios | 593-9445 |

Staff and Writers:

| | | |
|--------|---------|------------------------|
| KC6QLS | Paul | Editor |
| AI6O | ED | Vice President |
| N6OPH | Mike | Meeting Minutes |
| KI6FIH | Tassy | HAM Spot Light |
| W6CCM | Erich | WAMO Report |
| W5COM | Tom | Jokes |
| KG6PSK | Mark | The A.R.E.S Connection |
| KK6MS | John | Down Below in EC |
| WA6MHZ | Pat | Crest Radio Museum |
| KI6EEL | Bridget | Photos |

SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

From The President

Paul KC6QLS



First, I would like to thank Gordon Shackelford, AE6QW for his antenna presentation at our October meeting. It was informative and a lot of us learned something new and gained a better understanding of how and why they work the way they do.

Second, as you all know, we are in the process of electing officers for next year. At our October meeting, a nominations committee was selected. Nominations for the election of the Executive Committee shall be prepared by the nomination committee and presented to the membership at the November regular meeting. Nominations shall be called for from the floor at the November regular meeting, and after that nominations will be closed. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and six (6) board of directors shall be elected for one (1) year by a majority vote of the full membership at the December annual meeting. The term of offices shall extend from January 1 to December 31. If you are interested in running for an office, contact the nominations committee.

Third, a special thank you to the following: Ken Tinsley, WF6H and Dale Taber, WA6YHA who donated items to the ARCEC. Their donations will be appearing soon on the ARCEC prize table! We received cash donations from Mr. Magnuson and Marco G. Thorne, KF6SXZ. We would like to say thanks for the donations; we will put them to a good cause.

Last, but not least, it is that time of year again – time to nominate candidates for Ham of the Year. Please submit the name, call, and a brief write up for the *Counterpoise* with the reason you feel your candidate should receive Ham of the Year. Please send as soon as possible to the new Counterpoise email address WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net. We will vote at our December meeting, and announce the Ham of the Year at our annual Christmas Party, which will be held on December 18, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hometown Buffet in El Cajon.

73,
Paul Rios, KC6QLS
President



QLS

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting
12 October 2006



The general membership meeting of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon was called to order at 1900 hrs by club president Paul Rios, KC6QLS. The pledge of allegiance and welcoming of visitors then occurred.

SECRETARY'S: report as published in the *Counterpoise* was approved.

EDUCATION: report was given by Mike, N6OPH. He reported that the Extra Theory course is now in progress and that there is still room in the class for more students. Mike also reported that "Omnibus" report and order has been published by the FCC. There are many changes made by this report and order.

TREASURER: Sue, KF6WXA read the report. It was approved as read and filed for audit.

PRESIDENT: Paul, KC6QLS announced that a nominations committee needs to be elected for nominations of potential officers. It was moved and seconded that the budget for the *Counterpoise* be increased by \$300. Motion was carried. Paul mentioned an equipment donation from a 92 year ham. The equipment was donated to Floyd KI6DUU and family. Paul also mentioned two donations from estate sales one for \$80 and another for \$150.

The nominations committee was selected. They are Floyd, KI6DUU; John, KF6XY; Rich, N6NKJ; Susan, KF6WXA and Earl, KF6WNX. John, KF6XY will chair the committee.

Rich, N6NKJ announced that Mark, KG6PSK, is replacing him.

Gordon, AE6QW gave the program on inexpensive multi-band HF antennae.

After the presentation and break, the business portion of the meeting commenced.

PRESIDENT: gave his report. He stated the membership needs to think about submissions for the Ham of the Year honor. The Mother Goose Parade float committee will be meeting this Saturday to begin the planning and construction of the float. The fire station #7 PR event was a great success.

VICE PRESIDENT: Ed, AI6O reported that the November meeting will be the home brew

contest. He also stated that he appreciated the support for the swap meet rendered by club members. He also discussed the digital net that he has started last month.

Mike, N6OPH reported on the SW Division Convention. He stated that the convention was extremely successful.

SANDARC: meeting was entirely devoted to the convention.

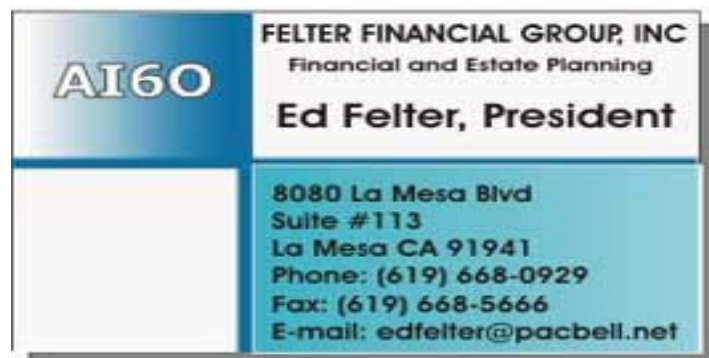
MEMBERSHIP: Chairman Ann, KC6TBG reported that there are 230 paid members of the club and that 41 members were at this evenings meeting.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Chair Rich, N6NKJ announced the El Cajon Club had a booth at the convention. Monica Zech and Roxanne from CDF were also at the convention.

SOCIAL CHAIRMAN: Xemi, KD6PRV reported that the Christmas Party will be held on 18 December at the Home Town Buffet in El Cajon.

There being no further business before the general membership, the meeting was adjourned at 2054hrs.

Respectfully Submitted
Michael Paul Maston, N6OPH
Secretary
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon



Silent Key
Ken Harvey, K6ICT,
WAMO # 508

From The Vice President AI6O ED



I read with great interest the following news item on the ARRL website. I guess it is another sign of the times.

"NEWINGTON, CT, Oct 25, 2006 — ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, is urging Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and other ham radio volunteers to tread cautiously when submitting information for background checks the American Red Cross (ARC) now requires. The ARC, with which the ARRL has a Statement of Understanding (SoU) this summer, notified local chapters that volunteers and staff members must submit to criminal background checks by October 31. Harrison says the requirement extends to ARES volunteers who support Red Cross disaster relief efforts. In a statement October 24, Harrison said the League recommends that anyone submitting personal information for a background check very carefully read what they are giving the ARC permission to collect.

'The Red Cross is requiring volunteers to grant permission for more than just a criminal background check,' Harrison asserted". Checkout the website for the full article on www.arrl.org.

I'm really looking forward to the HOME BREW projects we will see at the November meeting. I also hope that all are planning to be at the Home Town Buffet for our annual Christmas party/meeting together.

Straight ahead!

Ed, AI6O



WA6BGS Nets

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|----------------|
| Mike Oberbauer: | KG6TDP | Net Manger |
| Mike Oberbauer: | KG6TDP | Net Controller |
| Frito | N6WKB | Wide Open Nets |
| Ed Felter | AI6O | WAMO/D |

WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights
8:00 pm local time 7:30 "Checkins"

Tuesday Night Rag Chew net:

8:00 pm

Nets held on club repeaters

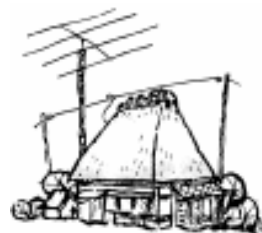
WA6BGS Repeaters

RX 146.475 (147.420) 107.2 PL

RX 224.080 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.



New WAMO/D Net

ARCEC, San Diego Digital VHF Net

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Day: Thurs. "Except 2nd Thurs. of the month"

Mode: PSK31

Frequency: 50.290 MHz. and a QSY to 144.144 MHz

This is an open net and all are invited. Early check-ins will be taken. Hope to see you on the waterfall!

WAMO means Worked All Members Only. The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.


Calendar of Events November 2006

| | | |
|------|-----|--|
| Nov. | 4: | Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am |
| Nov. | 4: | T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm |
| Nov. | 7: | Board Meeting, 7:00 pm |
| Nov. | 7: | USA General Elections |
| Nov. | 9: | General Meeting, 7:00 pm |
| Nov. | 9: | Home Brew Contest |
| Nov. | 9: | Nominations & Ham of the Year |
| Nov. | 17: | Counterpoise Dead Line |
| Nov. | 11: | ARES Meeting, 8:00 am |
| Nov. | 19: | Mother Goose Parade |
| Nov. | 18: | Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am |
| Nov. | 18: | T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm |

Upcoming Event Dates

| | | |
|------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| Dec. | 14: | Elections 2007 Officers |
| Dec. | ??: | Radio Clause |
| Dec. | 18: | ARCEC Christmas Dinner "Hometown" |

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San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: www.wa6bgs.org

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file may be up to 1.5 mb at times.

Change of Address

Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call _____ WAMO# _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
New Address:
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to Membership Chairperson:
A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

ARCEC Membership Application

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Amateur Call Sign | 2. Class of License |
| 3. First Name | 4. Last Name |
| 5. Street Address | 6. City, State, Zip+4 |
| 7. Home Phone | 8. Work Phone |
| May we list: Y N | |
| 9. DOB | 10. e-mail |
| 11. ARRL Member Yes no | 12. ARES Member Yes No |
| 13. RACES Member Yes No | 14. Sponsored by: or Family Member |

Return this form with check made payable to the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon or ARCEC for new or renewal membership. Annual Dues \$18.00 for Individual, \$30.00 for family. New members add \$5.00 per member. Include your call on Check. Mail to
Membership Chairperson
A.R.C.E.C, P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| New () or Renewal () | WAMO Number |
| Certificate Issued | Dues from _____ To _____ |
| Paid Cash () | Check No. |
| Check () | Date Paid: |

Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

FUN PAGE

Birthdays November

| | | | |
|-------------|--------|----------|-------------|
| November 4 | AD6LL | Susan | Chamberlain |
| November 6 | K6TDS | Jack | Higginson |
| November 11 | KG6IMC | Joe | DeMello |
| November 13 | WB6EWT | Miriam | DeMers |
| November 13 | K6FT | Frederic | Taylor |
| November 14 | KA6NFX | Ron | Jordan |
| November 15 | K1CHS | Ed | Blank |
| November 17 | K6BX | John | Roessler |
| November 17 | WB6WSN | Ed | Price |
| November 17 | KM6EK | Joe | Utschig |
| November 19 | KE6TPL | Jack | Carter |
| November 20 | KE6TPJ | Al | Washburn |
| November 23 | KF6YCU | Tomes | Theodorelos |
| November 24 | WA6BEN | Ben | Bunsold |
| November 24 | KC6NSI | Bobbie | Hoolihan |
| November 26 | KQ6EN | Jim | Davies |
| November 29 | WB6RSG | Tom | Tennyson |
| November | | Evanna | Miller |
| November | | Ron | Royer |

Word Search "Home Brew"

T R A N S F O R M E R C P W D
R M N W P B W M P L E A M E B
A O T E S D M J K C E C P D J K
N R E S I S T O R C E A W I M
S P N B D O P B D T I C V X O
I W N J E W X V O R V I A D R
S M A K A C M W V O N E T R J S
T U C O M G D O K N R O I O E
O H O M E B R E W I S R A N C
R C I R U I T A G C M W B O O
W V L D V C I R C U I T L T E
V O L T A G E P V W B G L E T E
P G K C G E C H X M E K D A J
O X E N O H P O R C I M B T M
B K Y D W B K N Y O W Q L S W
Y T I V I T A E R C D O V P O
M D O J R E I L I F I L P M A

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AMPLIFIER | <input type="checkbox"/> KEY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANTENNA COIL | <input type="checkbox"/> MICROPHONE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAPACITOR | <input type="checkbox"/> MORSE CODE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIRCUIT | <input type="checkbox"/> RADIO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CREATIVITY | <input type="checkbox"/> RECEIVERS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EARPHONE | <input type="checkbox"/> RESISTOR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRONIC | <input type="checkbox"/> STATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HOMEBREW | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSFORMER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HUM | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSISTOR |
| <input type="checkbox"/> IDEA | <input type="checkbox"/> VARIABLE |

Bonus Word ☐ VOLTAGE

Jokes "Nuts?"

A bus driver was taking a group of senior citizens on a tour vacation when one of the little old ladies tapped him on his shoulder. She offered him a handful of peanuts, which he gratefully munched as he drove on. After about fifteen minutes, she tapped him on his shoulder again and handed him another handful of peanuts. As the morning continued, she repeated this five more times. When she was about to hand him another batch, he asked her, "Why don't you folks eat the peanuts yourselves?"

She replied, "We can't chew them because we have no teeth."

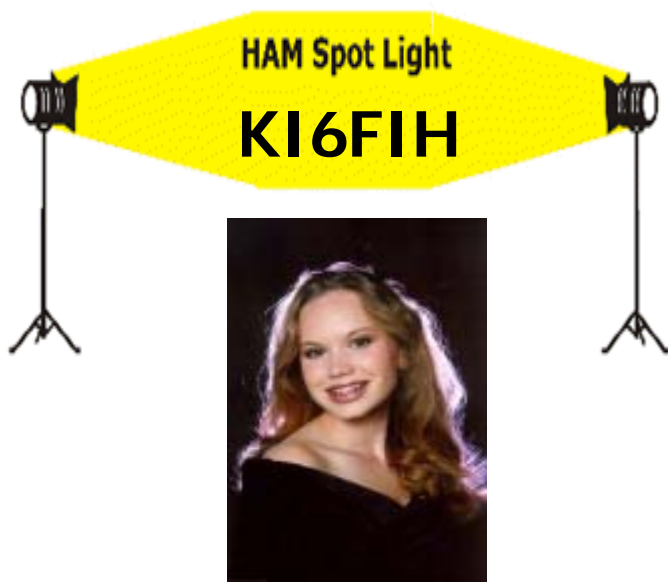
The puzzled driver asked, "Then why do you buy them?"

The old lady replied, "We just love sucking the chocolate off 'em."

Tom, W5COM

Last Months Word Search

I O C A T I O N S W U D G H F
E W Z K F W A V K R V 5 G V
N D I P O I E U Z G I H C K
G A O G A B V O F J M O B
T R E 5 H A F G H U I S A U F
H W L U F C J S W Q N F X N W
H E I C H T D A E J Y E D H
U H B 5 V W T W D E W A C T R
W S O A O F Y Q V I S X Q U E
F U M A T C H Z A H I W 5
G 5 S W K Y R C 5 R V S Z G E
K O Z A Y B V A O W F Y O D M
H C T I W S H Y T J G O P S X
T U N E R Z K A H U R W H O I
S K R V E L E M E N T S Q L S
V C A S O G R E T E M O W T V
S O 5 G H U A N N E T N A W U



Hi, Tassy Rios, KI6FIH, WAMO #1679, here. I have had the pleasure of meeting and writing about many Hams in the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon over the past few years, and now it seems it is my turn to step into the spotlight.

I'm a senior at El Cajon Valley High School, involved with ASB, Yearbook and play Volleyball, and I am busy applying to colleges.

I have been around amateur radio all my life, having attended many of ARCEC's events such as Field Day, the annual picnics and Christmas parties and have now earned my license, KI6FIH. I had the opportunity to participate in the 2006 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention and was impressed by the dedication of all those who attended and volunteered. Amateur Radio is a broad hobby with lots of diversity, many clubs to join and so many opportunities to serve the community. I have often heard "Amateur Radio is not just a hobby, but a service", and I am looking forward to being part of the "Family of Hams" in the years to come.

And now another new voice on the radio...

73,

Tassy Rios, KI6FIH

Home Brew Rules

1. All home brew projects must have been constructed during the calendar year of 2005.
2. All home brew projects must be original works. No kits please.
3. The home brew contest will consist of three categories; Novice, Advanced and Antenna.
4. Novice class would be reserved for beginners who are constructing their first project.
5. Advanced class would be for those who are experienced in the art of home brewing. It would be as complex as practicable.
6. The antenna class would consist of a transmitting antenna for any amateur frequency.
7. All home brew projects must be explained by the builder and demonstrated before the general membership. All projects must function as described.
8. Each home brew class will consist of first, second and third places. The winner of each class would be awarded an appropriate plaque.
9. The judging would be accomplished by three volunteers selected by the club president. Any licensed amateur radio operator and club member is illegible to be a judge. The decision of the judges is final. No sour grapes please.
10. The purpose of the home brew contest is to demonstrate just one of the many capabilities of the amateur radio community. Build and have fun!!



The Editor's
Corner
KC6QLS Paul



Editor's Corner:

Please welcome John Graf, KK6MS, as our new staff writer to the *Counterpoise*. He has volunteered to write a column entitled "Down Below", and his first article is in this issue. I am looking forward to this new monthly column and hope you will too. Enjoy.

Please submit your nominations for Ham of the Year as soon as possible to WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net or at the next meeting.

73,
Paul, KC6QLS
Editor

Public Relations

The Float Committee is in the process of putting together a float for the Mother Goose Parade, and we are still looking for a trailer. We have two Saturdays left (November 11, 2006 and November 18, 2006) to assemble and complete the float for the November 19, 2006 Mother Goose Parade. If anyone has a trailer we can use, please contact me as soon as possible at kc6qls@cox.net as we must start building on November 11th. Club members are welcome to come join the fun of building and riding on the float. Also, we are looking for volunteers to walk the parade route with us and hand out fliers. Members are invited and encouraged to come out to the Mother Goose Parade on Sunday morning, wear your club t-shirts and show our club spirit. This is our opportunity to spread the word that amateur radio is alive and well in the City of El Cajon, and your support is needed to make this a successful event.

73,
Paul, KC6QLS
Public Relations

Volunteers Needed

Up Coming Events

Radio Clause

Please Sign up at the next meeting

NEW E-Mail

Address for the Counterpoise. Please submit all *Counterpoise* Mail to:

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net

Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. To Help, contact WA6PPG Carl Ferree at 328-2694 e-mail at cferree@IEEE.ORG

Things to keep in mind

Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector

To sign up visit:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

Quote of the Month

"Bright youth passes swiftly as a thought"
- Theognis Ibid. 1. 985



Plaza Las Palmas Center
1255 Avocado Ave. Suite 103,
El Cajon, CA 92020 (619) 440-4031

Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



New Arrivals!

Several exciting new radios have come into the Museum lately, much to the dismay of KB6RCT. First, discussed will be the Heathkit SB-303 from 1970. This is probably Heathkit's BEST receiver ever, a solid state version of its older SB-300 and 301. It uses Mosfets and even a few IC's but retains its great dial and look. 303's are in very high demand and go for a mint on Ebay, so it took much bidding and pain to finally nail one. Of course, the worse condition it is, the better chances are to land it. I sniped it for \$77, with the text mentioning how it did not work at all and the dial didn't turn. When it came in, to my delight, it had all 3 filters, including the AM and CW, which go for \$50 alone! Luckily, the Rig dismantlers didn't see that. There is the whole group of people on Ebay who get radios just to take them apart and sell the parts to make even more money. I think it is a crying shame to take a perfectly good radio apart just for pure GREED!!! Sure enough, the 303 was good and broke. First thing found was that the local oscillator wouldn't play. This turned out because the clown had messed up the positions of the gang switches, which I reverse engineered and cured. There were all sorts of maladies, from capacitors not soldered to just plain incorrect assembly. This radio could NEVER have worked!!! But with the manual and schematic, I figured out each problem and soon it ALMOST worked. But the rig's VFO (called a LMO) went spurious at most of the dial frequencies!! This was a problem I couldn't cure! But researching on the net, I found many other 303 owners had experienced a similar problem! It turns out Heathkit requires you to have a 50 ohm load in the LMO Output jack for it to work!!! So many other radios around the world probably never worked either unless they knew the secret, which is not explained well in the manual. So now, it works GREAT!!! PHEW!!! That one was tough!!

Next radio up was the Yaesu FT-221, an all-mode base radio for 2 meters. This is actually solid state too, but only has one obscure RTL IC. Great radio from the mid 70s. This one came from the Palomar ARC Auction, and it went pricey even though it didn't work either. I arrived back at work after driving from Carlsbad and started work that night. I wouldn't finish till well after midnight, and then it was just a few hours sleep until tomorrow's workday. This one was advertised as no Receive. It turns out that the reason it never received was because of a rarely seen MOX switch being on, placing the radio in continuous transmit!!! But it was still flaky. After disassembly and spraying all the rotary switches with the expensive DE-OXIT, it worked great too, though the output power was only 4W instead of the advertised 10. Maybe these were always lame on transmit! Another great radio that actually can be used on the bands!!

Our final radio of the day is a true CLASSIC!!! This is the Hallicrafters SX-100 from the mid 50's. Though not quite as fancy or heavy as the SX-101, it is a first class general coverage shortwave receiver with ham band bandspread. There are a number of filters and selectivity features in it making it a wonderful CW radio and for SSB right at the dawn of the Sideband era. This radio came as a present from our ARRL Southwestern Division Convention Banquet speaker Gordon West WB6NOA. Gordy knew I liked old rigs, but had no idea how long I had sought and dreamed of owning a SX-100!!! At the banquet, he spoke of how I had found this rig at the Swapmeet and turned it on. As the program progressed, suddenly there was copious amounts of SMOKE rolling out of it, much to the great surprise of the crowd. Was the transformer cooked??? OH NO!!!! But it was all one of Gordy's GAGS!!! He had secretly installed a Smoke machine in it to taunt the crowd!!! After the banquet, Gordy said I could take it home. This is a delightful receiver I am still working on at work, and it will be a real showpiece shortly.

So, always looking for more radios. My wife is not, but, again, she will get over it! 73!

Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ
San Diego Section Manager
Curator, Crest Radio Museum

Down Below In El Cajon

By: KK6MS

My name is John KK6MS, and I have this crazy idea to write about what is happening on the HF bands here on the west coast. The name of the column is "Down Below," and we will be talking about those of us in the ARCEC who work below 30 MHz.

I would love to hear what you have been up to. Please let me know about any interesting DX you've worked, how you did in one of the contests, any new equipment or antennas you like (or don't like) or any strange band openings you've heard. Just email me at john@kk6ms.com or find me on the air.

If you are not on HF now, I would like to hear from you as well. Whatever your license class or experience, I will try to get you in front of an HF rig and let you have some fun. I'll find you an "Elmer" and get you on your way if at all possible. You don't have to wait until Field Day to work the world!

So, what has been happening as of late? With all the talk of the low sunspot numbers and the end of cycle 23, you would think the bands are totally dead. Nothing could be further from the truth. The 15m, 17m, and 20m bands have been open in the late afternoon and early evening from my QTH and I have heard good signals from South America, Australia, and the Middle East in just the last week. Europe? Not so much . . .

The DXpedition to Kermadec Islands near New Zealand has been all over the bands this last couple of weeks. They had a great signal, which was both good news and bad news. It took a while to get through the pile-ups, but I finally logged a QSO on 15 meters with my measly 100 watts into a vertical. That was fun! I am looking forward to getting the QSL in the mail.

And speaking of QSLs, are you aware of the online QSL service offered by the ARRL? It's called the "Logbook of the World" and it is absolutely free to anyone, whether or not you are an ARRL member.

Getting set up on LOTW (as it is called) can be a chore, but once you are set up, it is easy to upload your QSO information. The system auto-magically compares your data with everyone else's, and matches you for a QSL. You don't get the card in the mail, but you can apply right on line for ARRL awards, such as Worked All States (WAS) and the DX Century Club (DXCC). The system even tracks these for you and shows you how close you are to an award.

Check the ARRL web site if you want more information on LOTW. If you have any questions, drop me an email, and I will do my best to help. I think I already made just about every wrong turn on my way to getting registered, and I am happy to try and help you avoid the same mistakes.

So, thanks for reading the first Down Below column. While you are thinking of it, go to your computer right now and send me an email. Let me know.

73
John Graf
KK6MS



Crest Radio Museum Continued



Heathkit SB-303



Yaesu FT-221



Hallicafter SX-100

Testing and Classes

VEC Testing Sites

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 st Saturday: | El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of EC 867 South Lincoln Ave. |
| 2 nd Saturday: | Carlsbad 10:00 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad |
| 3 rd Saturday: | North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego |
| 4 th Saturday: | Chula Vista 9:00 am Salvation Army 643 Third Ave Chula Vista |
| 5 th or last Saturday: | Escondido 10:00 am Escondido Chamber of Commerce 720 north Broadway Escondido |

To make advance reservations or to find out more info from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)

Club Attire

***** Shirts on hand. Call for Sizes *****

Get your jackets, hats and t-shirts.

Show off your club colors and let all know that the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is strong and growing.

Contact: K6PKS Paul Schmidt (619) 733-2284

Extra Class License Theory Course Instructor: Gordon Shackelford AE6QW

Location: 222 W. Madison Avenue, El Cajon

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Text: ARRL's Extra Q & A

Sessions:

1 – 6 on Tuesday: 10/10/06; 10/17/06; 10/24/06; 11/14/06; 11/21/06; 11/28/06.

To enroll Contact: Mike Maston, N6OPH
Education Chairman
(619) 296-9067

The A.R.E.S Connection

From Mark KG6PSK



Please welcome our new ARES Connection writer; his name is Mark KG6PSK, WAMO #1712. He just joined the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. He has some big shoes to fill as Rich N6NKJ has done an outstanding job for many years.

He will be a busy person and will help keep us all informed of our upcoming events and let us know when ARES will need volunteers to man a station. ARES web site is www.sdARES.org and they meet every second Saturday of the month at 8 AM, at Giovanni's Restaurant at 9353 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego, right down the road from HRO.

The next event will be this November 15th it will be a County Full-Scale EMS exercise. If you can help please contact Jim Cammarano KG6R or Mike NW1N at (858) 342-7921. If you can't help but like to listen to how to work your radio in disaster mode, please visit the web site for the frequencies. I have done this in the past and have learned a lot. It's also a lot of fun too.

Welcome Mark, I think it will be a good read and you will keep us up to date on our local events.

Paul KC6QLS
Editor



Welcome New Members

New Members



WAMO 1715 David Norton, K6AOS



WAMO 1711 John Graf, KK6MS



WAMO 1712 Mark Robinson, KG6PSK

Membership Pins ready for pick up at the next meeting:

KI6DTA
KI6DTD
W6REY
KG6IZW

KI6JWB
KI6DQJ
KG6SMT

Please note WAMO 1709 Pat Chambers has a new call W6VJT.

Thank you to all members who have renewed. Please check the mailing label on your Counterpoise. If your membership has expired, please take a moment to complete and return the Renewal Application located within this Counterpoise.

73 Ann, KC6TBG

Meeting Photos



Frito Wide Open Net
WA6BGS Repeter
Freq. 147.420 8:00 pm
Bring your Chips and sit back
and have Fun. Open to All

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
P.O. Box 50
El Cajon, CA 92022



Issue Date 11/2006

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Is your membership ready to expire?

Take a look on your mailing label. Is the expiration date in 2006? Does it say EXPIRED? That means it's time to mail in your yearly dues. Please take time to fill out the membership application in this newsletter, and mail it in, or bring it to the next meeting.



Amateur Radio ... A National Resource